are women. The National Literacy Mission aims at imparting functional literacy to threshold, sustainable level of 75% by the year 2005.

Expenditure on Adult Education Programme

990. DR. GOPALRAO VITHALRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how long Government propose to continue the Adult Education Programme; and

(b) the amount spent on this programme during the last three years and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Government has appr6ved the continuation of the National Literacy Mission and its schemes during the Ninth Five Year Plan. The goal of the National Literacy Mission is to attain a sustainable threshold level of literacy (75%) by 2005.

(b) An amount of Rs. 255.08 crores has been incurred on this programme during the last three years. Literacy rate has been going up at the rate of approximately 1.8% every year as per the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (53rd round).

Notification of Fake Universities

991. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what arc causes for the delay in notifying, only 15 take Universities, while about 50 such institutions are under investigation;

(b) whether Government are aware that career and prospects of a large number of innocent students are endangered by the activities of such fake Universities; and

(c) if so, what effective steps have been taken by Government to create wider awareness among students and to check the educational menace?